

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A bracing arrangement with overload protection comprising:

a first element to be braced[[,]];

a second element to be braced against the first element; and

a bracing bolt bracing the first and second elements[[,]];

a sleeve, which is braced against the second element to be braced with the bracing bolt and which goes through the first element to be braced[[,]]; and

a sleeve tensioning device, ~~which engages~~ configured to engage the sleeve and ~~braces~~ brace the first element ~~to be braced~~ against the second element ~~to be braced~~, the sleeve tensioning device being further configured to release

~~whereby the sleeve is released~~ to a pre-specified extent, ~~by the sleeve tensioning device and~~

the bracing arrangement being configured such that increasing ~~whereby exceeding~~ the operating force that separates the first and second elements from each other beyond an operating force threshold leads to relaxation of the sleeve relative to the bracing by the bracing bolt and to the consequential breaking of the bracing bolt.

2. (Previously presented) The bracing arrangement according to claim 1, in which the bracing bolt is strained up to a pre-specified extent within its range up to the yielding point.

3. (Previously presented) The bracing arrangement according to claim 1, in which the bracing bolt is more elastic than the sleeve.

4. (Previously presented) The bracing arrangement according to claim 1, in which the sleeve is more elastic than the first element to be braced.

5. (Previously presented) The bracing arrangement according to claim 1, in which the bracing bolt is a stud with a screw thread for screwing it into a bore with an internal thread of the second element to be braced.

6. (Previously presented) The bracing arrangement according to claim 1, in which the sleeve has an external screw thread for screwing onto the sleeve tensioning element with an internal thread.

7. (Previously presented) A method for bracing at least two elements to be braced with the help of a bracing bolt, a sleeve and a sleeve tensioning device comprising:

bracing the sleeve by means of the bracing bolt against the second element to be braced, whereby the bracing bolt compresses the sleeve,

bracing the first element to be braced on the second element to be braced with the sleeve tensioning device, whereby the sleeve tensioning device is braced with engagement with the sleeve projecting through the first element to be braced, in such a manner that the sleeve is relaxed relative to the preceding compression up to a pre-specified extent of release,

wherein an operating force, which moves the first and the second elements to be braced in mutually opposite directions, leads, above a pre-specified threshold value, to a complete release of the sleeve and to the breaking of the bracing bolt.

8. (Previously presented) The bracing bolt and sleeve as described above in conjunction with the bracing arrangement according to claim 1 wherein the bracing bolt is made of a more elastic material than the sleeve.

9. (Previously presented) The bracing bolt and sleeve according to claim 8, whereby a force, which stretches the bracing bolt to a pre-specified extent, compresses the sleeve in the opposite direction to a lesser extent.